

Abstract

The overexpression of certain marker genes including *Wnt5a* has been found useful in the identification of more aggressive forms of malignant melanoma. Therefore, the overexpression of these genes in tumor samples of malignant melanoma may be useful in the diagnosis, profiling, and treatment of patients suffering from this disease. Inhibitors of *Wnt5a* activity may be useful in the treatment of aggressive forms of malignant melanoma. Inhibition of *Wnt5a* activity may be effected by any method including anti-sense therapy, gene therapy, and pharmaceutical intervention.